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MAN IN THE CENTER

John Anthony, cochairman of the Emergency Recreation Council of Capitol East, stands looking out at the Anacostia River. Anthony's organization is taking the local lead in efforts to turn the Anacostia waterfront into a major recreational center for the area.

On February 7, the ERC is sponsoring a public meeting to discuss plans for the Anacostia and for the improvement of all of Capitol East. There will be a representative from the White House present to listen to the views of local citizens. For details see the story below.

Focus of the meeting's discussion will be upon a report prepared for Mrs. Lyndon Johnson's beautification committee. The Gazette reprints a major portion of this report on page 3.

The photo at left was taken during the ERC's dawn hike along the Anacostia last month. For this story please turn to page 2.

CAPITOL EAST GAZETTE

Serving Near Northeast & Near Southeast Washington

VOL. 1 NR. 8

FEBRUARY 1967

10 CENTS

White House Joins in Area Improvement Push

Meeting Feb. 7
on New Plans

The White House has joined actively with local groups working for physical improvements and better recreational opportunities in Capitol East. Last month, Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson's Committee for a More Beautiful Capital released a report, prepared by the architectural firm of Lawrence Halprin & Associates, that outlined numerous ways in which the appearance of the area could be upgraded and in which better facilities could be provided to Capitol East citizens. The Gazette reprints a major portion of that report beginning on page 3.

Mrs. Johnson is reported to have made several tours of Capitol East during January, driving up alleys and checking corners, in order to see how the Halprin plan might be implemented.

And on February 7, at 8 pm, there will be a public meeting at Hine Junior High School, 8th and Penna. SE, to hear citizen views on the Halprin plan and other proposals for improving the area. The meeting called at the request of the White House and sponsored by the Emergency Recreation Council of Capitol East, will be addressed by Mrs. Sharon Francis of the White House beautification committee.

The White House is said to be very anxious to get community reaction to the Halprin proposal and to hear other ideas.

The Halprin plan's proposed improvements include the development of interior blocks, vest pocket parks, attractive commercial areas, a city park along the Anacostia and use of existing buildings for recreational purposes. The report draws heavily upon ideas that have been kicking around the area for some time. Many of these ideas have been incorporated into the longterm goals of groups such as the Emergency Recreation Council. Backed in the report, for example, is conversion of the firehouse near 7th and N. C. Ave. SE to use as an indoor-outdoor pool, use of

the car barn at 14th and E. Capitol for recreational purposes, and an Anacostia development scheme similar to that favored by many local leaders.

But although many of the proposals come as no surprise to those who have been concerned locally with these problems, the power of White House backing and the personal interest of Mrs. Johnson can not help but improve the chances of these plans becoming reality.

Some of the projects proposed in the Halprin report would require government funds to be carried out.

Others, such as the development of interior blocks, would also need the cooperation of local residents to be fulfilled.

East of the Dome

► The biggest problem with the 9th Precinct's two new motorscooters appears to be that of getting parts when they break down. The Italian-made scooters are quite versatile and are able to go places that a squad car couldn't. They do, however, have to be grounded on snowy days because of traction difficulties.

► Bryant Harris, former president of the Public Interest Civic Association, plans to set up a program to use unskilled and semi-skilled adults to help process computer data. Harris says, "We hope to get off the ground the middle of this year."

Community Centers Keep Poverty Funds

The two major anti-poverty programs in Capitol East will be allowed to continue at their present level. The United Planning Organization, which runs the Washington war on poverty, has voted to make required fund cuts in programs other than those carried out by agencies such as Friendship House in Near SE and the Community Improvement Corporation in Near NE.

For several months now, the future of local community action programs has been very much in doubt while UPO considered how it would reduce its expenditures by almost \$300,000 a month. The cutback was made necessary by last fall's austere congressional appropriations for the war on poverty.

After weeks of backing and filling, and after a growingly militant protest from representatives of the poor, UPO's board voted to make the necessary slice in projects other than the community action program. Among those items slashed were the model school division in the Cardozo area, the neighborhood

job finding and placement program, and the downtown staff of UPO.

The net effect of the action on local programs is to permit them to carry out present projects and protect the jobs of those currently employed. A job freeze, however, is still in effect, and when local staffers leave their posts it may not be possible to refill the positions.

The action also does not allow for any needed expansion of present programs or for the development of new programs.

Prior to the UPO action, the neighborhood advisory groups of Near NE and Near SE took markedly different stands regarding the fund cuts. At a chaotic meeting on January 3, the Near NE Citizens Advisory Committee went along with the main provisions of a tentative UPO plan that would have resulted in a 15% cut in local programs. The SE Neighborhood Advisory Group, however, decided quickly at a later meeting not to approve any plan for implementing the fund cuts and reiterated its position that there should be no reduction at all.

Anacostia Plans are Outlined

The National Capital Planning Commission has drawn up a set of tentative working principles for the development of the Anacostia River area. These will be incorporated in the commission's revised 1985 plan for the development of Washington, to be released shortly. The commission's criteria for the Anacostia area include these points:

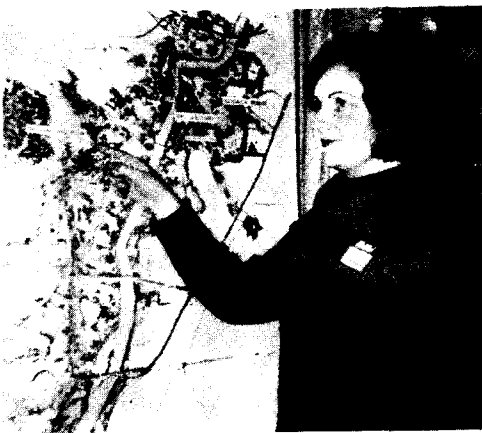
- Opening the river channel all the way to the District line.
- Partial filling of Kingman Lake. This area east of the D. C. Stadium is at present neither usable water or usable

land. The commission's plan would leave a system of smaller lakes.

- Retention of the lakes on the eastern shore of the river
- Resculpturing land to provide hills, in order to separate the area visually from such things as D. C. General Hospital.
- Retention of the natural character of the upper section of the park.
- Use of the Navy Yard for offices and housing.
- Reclaiming D. C. Stadium parking lots for use as park land.
- Maintenance of north-south continuity through the area so it can be used for hiking and bicycling.
- New facilities for active recreation like football and baseball.
- Construction of neighborhood centers.
- Construction of new sports centers.
- Refurbishing of the Langston Golf Course, 26th and Benning NE.

--Raising the level of the land to shield it from a view of the highway.

The commission's plans--which are still in draft form--were outlined by Mrs. Linda Van Sweden at a Jan. 7 meeting at Friendship House, 6th and D SE, sponsored by the Emergency Recreation Council of Capitol East. Mrs. Van Sweden



LINDA VAN SWEDEN

en was formerly with the planning commission and helped to draw up the Anacostia plan.

She was one of some sixty persons who took an early morning hike along the river prior to the meeting. Others included representatives of the White House, federal and District governments and local civic organizations. The ERC initiated the novel hike-meeting in order to acquaint officials downtown and citizens nearby with the recreational potential of Capitol East's last sizable stretch of open space.

Indicative of the high-level interest in the hike was the presence of Mrs. Sharon

Francis of the White House Beautification Committee; Mrs. Polly Shackleton of the D. C. Democratic Central Committee; T. Sutton Jett, regional director of the National Park Service; and Joseph Cole, director of the Recreation Department.

There were also representatives from the D. C. Highway Department, the National Capital Transportation Agency and the Interior Department's Potomac planning staff.

The hikers gathered in the Saturday dawn chill at Friendship House for coffee and doughnuts. They then set out, by car and bus, for the Langston Golf Course where the hike commenced.

The walk led the group down between Kingman Lake and the D. C. Stadium parking lots, past the stadium and a railroad bridge, down among the dilapidated marinas further south and finally to the 11th St. bridge.

At one point, near the stadium, ERC cochairman Thomas G. Smith pointed to some stakes that had been driven into the ground. "I don't know for certain," he said, "but this looks like the path of the highway and you can see how it will block access to the river."

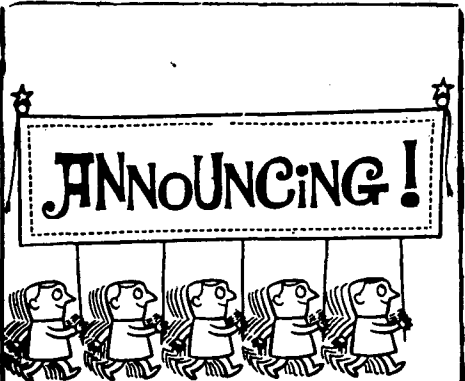
The group stared at the stake and someone in the back yelled, "Pull it out, Tom," but Smith moved on.

Following the hike, the group gathered again at Friendship House for breakfast and the panel discussion at which Mrs. Van Sweden and others spoke.

Also on the panel, which was moderated by ERC cochairman John Anthony, was Elmer Atkins of the D. C. Highway Department who told the group that the SE expressway should be completed as far as Barney Circle by 1969 and to Benning Road by 1970-71.

Another panelist, Grover Earle Steele, who is NPS superintendent for this area, said in response to a question that it would be possible to make some improvements in the region without the full development of the 1985 plan. "We're going right into where we can without waiting for large appropriations," he said.

Several representatives of hiking clubs stressed the importance of having trails available and others present expressed concern about the effect of the highway on access to the area.



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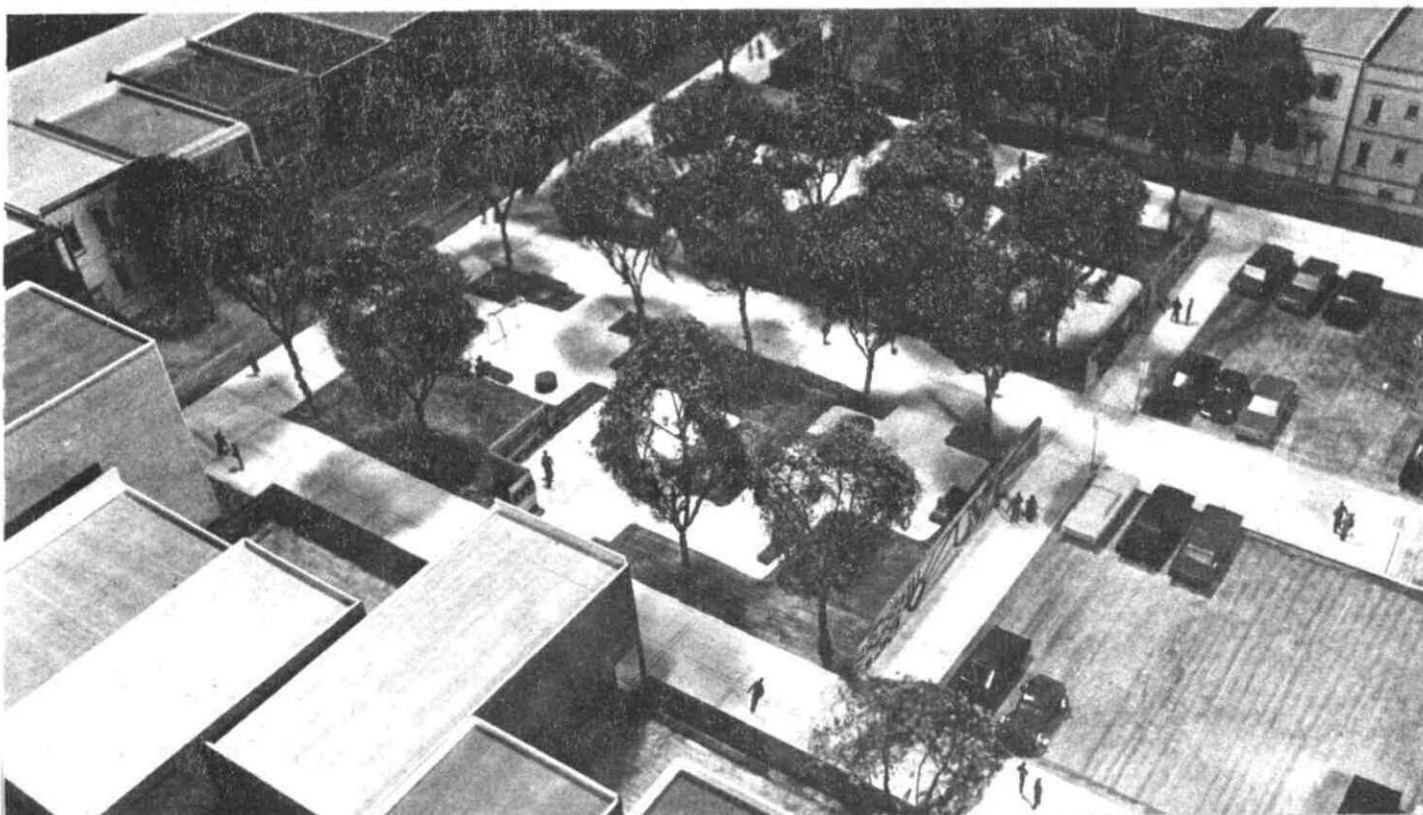
CAPITOL EAST GAZETTE

Serving Near Northeast & Near Southeast Washington

February, 1967

Special Feature

Page 3



INTERIOR BLOCKS. The three small photos are different views of an existing interior block in Capitol East. The bottom photo shows a model of the same block after proposed reconstruction.

INTRODUCTION

The beautification program which began under Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson's leadership two years ago in the Nation's Capital has made noteworthy improvements from one end of the city to the other. From the great plans for the Mall and Pennsylvania Ave; for the Potomac River; the beginnings of downtown improvement on F Street; from the triangles and circles and tot lots; and replanting of the highway entrances to the city; from Walker Jones School to Buchanan and Syfax; from block clean up projects to Watts Branch Park and Capper Houses Plaza--exciting and eminently worthwhile improvements are underway, and we believe strongly that the forceful directions that have been started should be continued and enlarged upon.

As consultants to Mrs. Johnson's Committee for a More Beautiful Capital, we have been looking at the city in terms of deepening and enlarging the impact of beautification in Washington. Because the monumental part of the city and the major tourist-oriented avenues are so well under control, we have focused on other areas where the need is very great, and where urban rejuvenation could do the most for the lives of surrounding neighbors and the city as a whole. Our search has been for a vocabulary of beauty which will grow out of the deep-rooted needs and desires of the inhabitants of Washington; a functional beauty which will enhance their lives by solving their living problems as well as appealing to the eye.

The Halprin Plan for Capitol East

(Below is printed that portion of a report prepared by Lawrence Halprin and Associates for Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson's Committee for a More Beautiful Capital that relates to Capitol East. Some of the photos and drawings that accompanied the report are also included.)

BLOCK INTERIORS

In our exploration of Washington, we have found a vast reservoir of existing open space--now usually derelict--in the interior spaces between blocks of houses.

In some cases these inner blocks are as much as 150 feet across. They contain service alleys, sheds, junked cars, effluvia of various kinds, but their potential is one of the richest opportunities for neighborhood improvement that we have found.

Not so long ago, the alleys of Washington were its shame, and contained the worst slums. In today's terms, they can become the saving of the city by providing useful open space, as close to home as the back door.

The essential service access can be kept open through these alleys, and by application of easements, portions of the private space developed as community plazas--with game areas, shady trees, gardens, car parking, and even swimming pools. Some interior blocks lie behind a commercial street in which an arcade can be opened and the inner block could contain coffee houses, store front museums as proposed by the Smithsonian and other small community structures as well as outdoor facilities. There are whole areas where alleys extend for many blocks, and could be developed as winding pedestrian greenways for the entire community, weaving their influence throughout.

Much forward looking urban planning today is advancing the idea of pulling pedestrian traffic off arterials and introverting a community to leisurely and enjoyable use of its inner spaces. Washington has this resource, ready to use, and its development could be one of the most important improvements in the city to date. We have discussed this idea with community groups and found great enthusiasm for the possibilities. Each interior block will of course present its own problems including those of ownership patterns. Where absentee ownership exists the project becomes more complex to achieve. But several pilot projects developed where lo-

cal owners agree to pool resources will serve to demonstrate the great benefits to the entire neighborhood.

VEST POCKET PARKS

There is an infinite number of ways to use a confined vacant lot for neighborhood fun and relaxation.

Some lots can become gardens, such as was done by Project Pride residents last summer. Some can become rugged adventure playgrounds, outdoor classrooms, youth gardens, places to play ball, places to dance. Some can be developed as quiet parklets for mothers to sit with their children, others can provide foci for neighborhood art and craft activities. The precise function of each must be determined with the programmatic participation of neighborhood community associations. They all have the great virtue of being close to home and safe to play in and use.

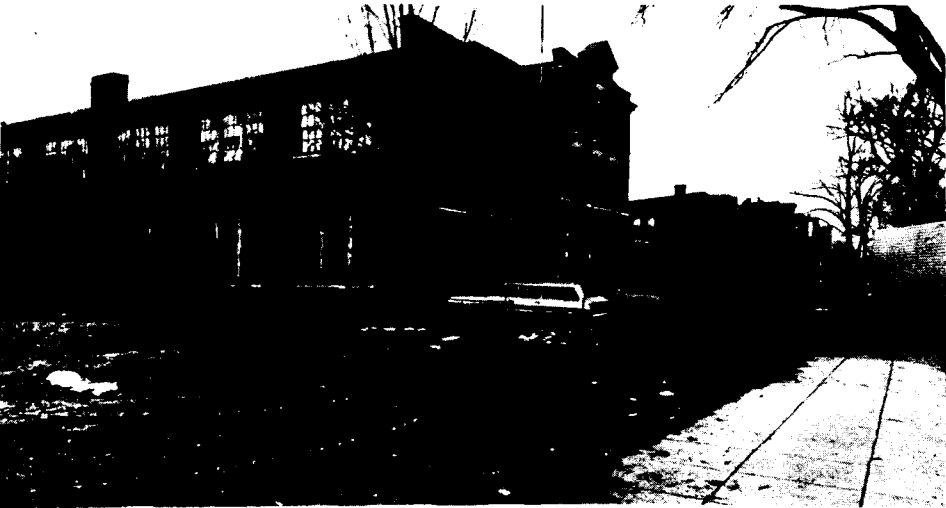
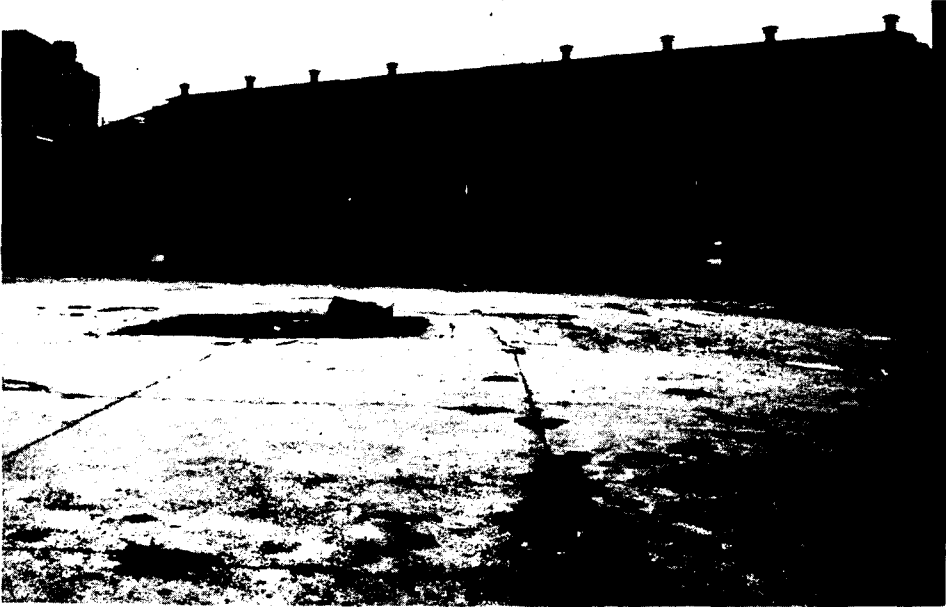
Vest pocket parks afford a wonderful opportunity for citizens to participate in the actual building process. They can also be constructed by poverty workers, as well as usual public agencies.

TRIANGLES

L'Enfant's plan of diagonal avenues throughout the city of Washington has left a legacy of triangular open spaces, now mostly vacant, which can be used and visually improved in a number of ways.

Some can be done as plazas; others as parklets or tot lots. They can have fountains, or stages, or sculpture, depending upon the avenue, context, and the preferences of neighbors nearby.

Where it does not interfere with important traffic patterns, and where eddies in traffic already exist, the connecting street should be closed off, so that the triangle



TRIANGLES. Existing unused triangle (top) and prototype treatment of triangle (bottom). Triangles can be used for plazas and tot lots.

area is expanded at its base and connected to the adjacent sidewalk. In some cases triangles can be connected to important neighborhood facilities such as churches. Many of these closures have been tested and already proved feasible.

SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS

In the densely populated sections of Washington schools are frequent. One sixteen-block area boasts ten schools, and almost without exception, their asphalt and chain-link playgrounds call for improvement.

In many cases there is a roadway separating school and playground, or separating several schools. If closed to traffic these can add significant new space for games, dancing, pedestrians, and community events to the school area.

COMMERCIAL CORNERS

One of the unique characteristics of many of Washington's neighborhoods is that there is a cornerstore often set back at an angle, or indentation, from the block.

We are proposing that the space in front be improved as a local plaza, perhaps with a tree and bench, nice paving and lighting, or even with a small fountain.

There are a number of situations where two or three or even four of the corners around an intersection have the same set back and could be developed in a variety of delightful ways.

These could spark the beginning of further improvements up and down the street and encourage the development of store front museums, churches, coffee houses for teen-agers, and other important community facilities.

COMMERCIAL STRIP

The Capitol East area has any number of tiny shopping areas woven throughout

its residential neighborhoods, caused by earlier conversion of houses to stores, and these afford an outstanding opportunity to add vitality and beauty to the entire area.

Often all that is needed is to weld all the block together into a handsome shopping street--improve the lighting, pave from curb back to the building line, plant trees, add pots of flowers and benches and provide places for people to sit and pass the time of day. Some examples of small scale commercial rehabilitation have already started and have begun to add character to the area. Next to Eastern Market a small block of buildings has been repainted, graphically interesting signs have been added and the street has already great charm.

COMMERCIAL STREET

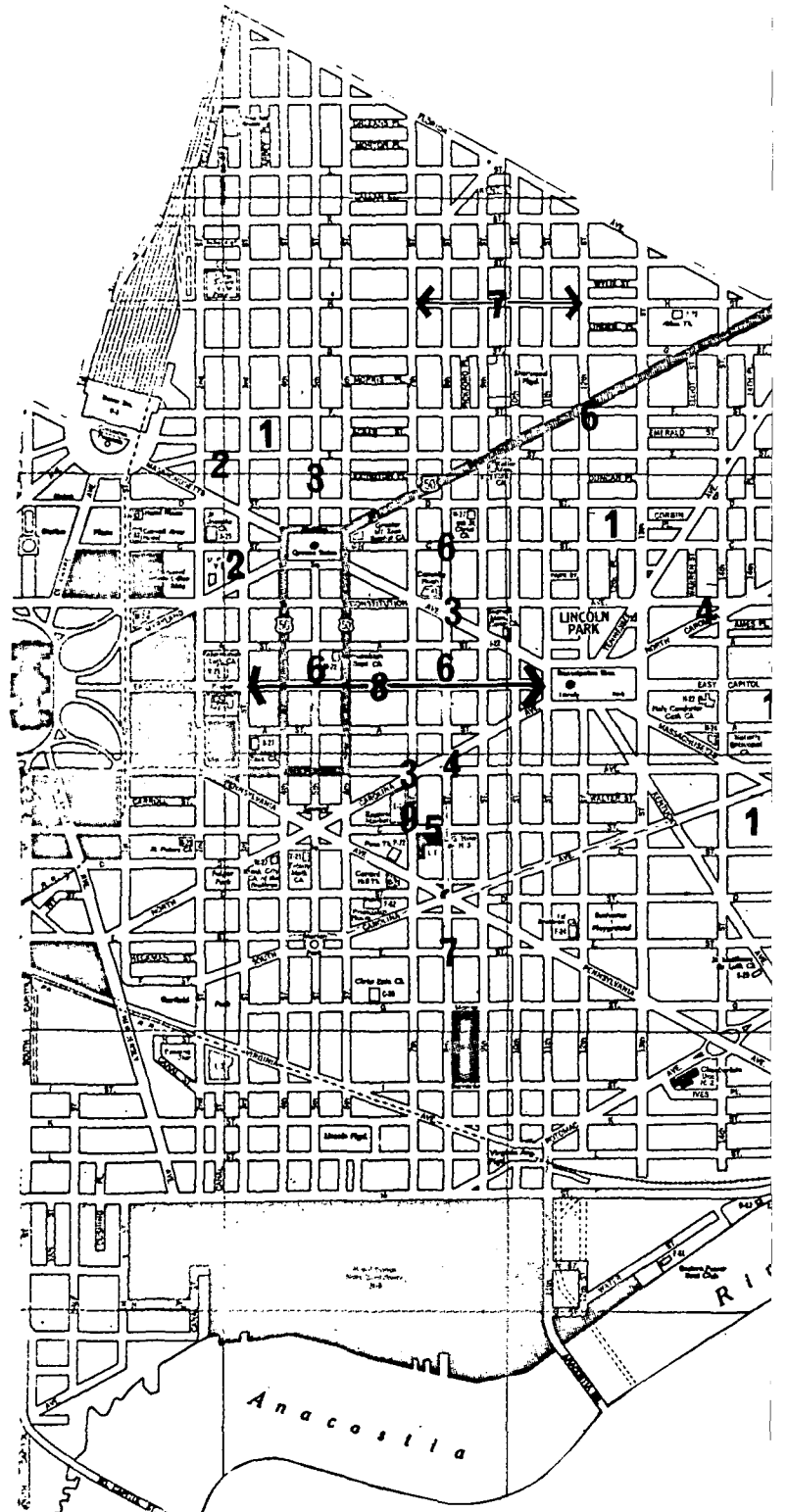
There are a number of good ways in which shopping streets can be made more pleasant and attractive. The celebrated pedestrian mall in Fresno is one successful way which has converted the main street to pedestrian uses. Nicollet Avenue in Minneapolis has been converted to a transit mall by removing private cars.

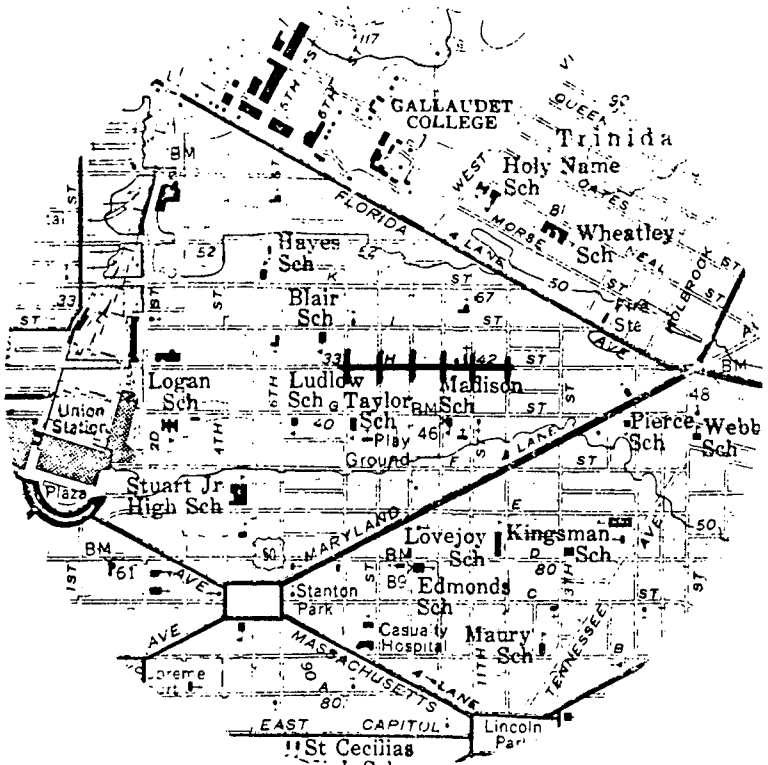
In the case of H Street, Northeast, we are showing what can be done to upgrade this very heavily used shopping area--short of changing traffic patterns or major rehabilitation of buildings. The suggestions involve making little plazas at a number of set back corners; planting street trees; using bright tubs of plants; and perhaps a new coat of paint here and there, as interest develops, improving the quality and design of signs and removing car parking at corners to increase vital pedestrian space at the crosswalks.

COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTERS

In conjunction with high schools, or a series of schools, it is often desirable to develop a combined community center that would not only have the usual teen-sports facilities, but could include adult activities too, places to shop, and swimming pools, health and medical facilities, libraries and craft centers.

In the Capitol East area a combination of community facilities can be most attractively developed around the existing Eastern Market--which already is a hub of interest for the entire Hill area. This might include redesigning the outdoor stalls that are used by farmers on Saturdays; use of the front portion of the market for an ice cream parlor or other cheery shop; the design of an attractive all-year swimming facility on the Fire House site. Funds are already available for the





H STREET. Portion of H St. NE proposed as beautification site.

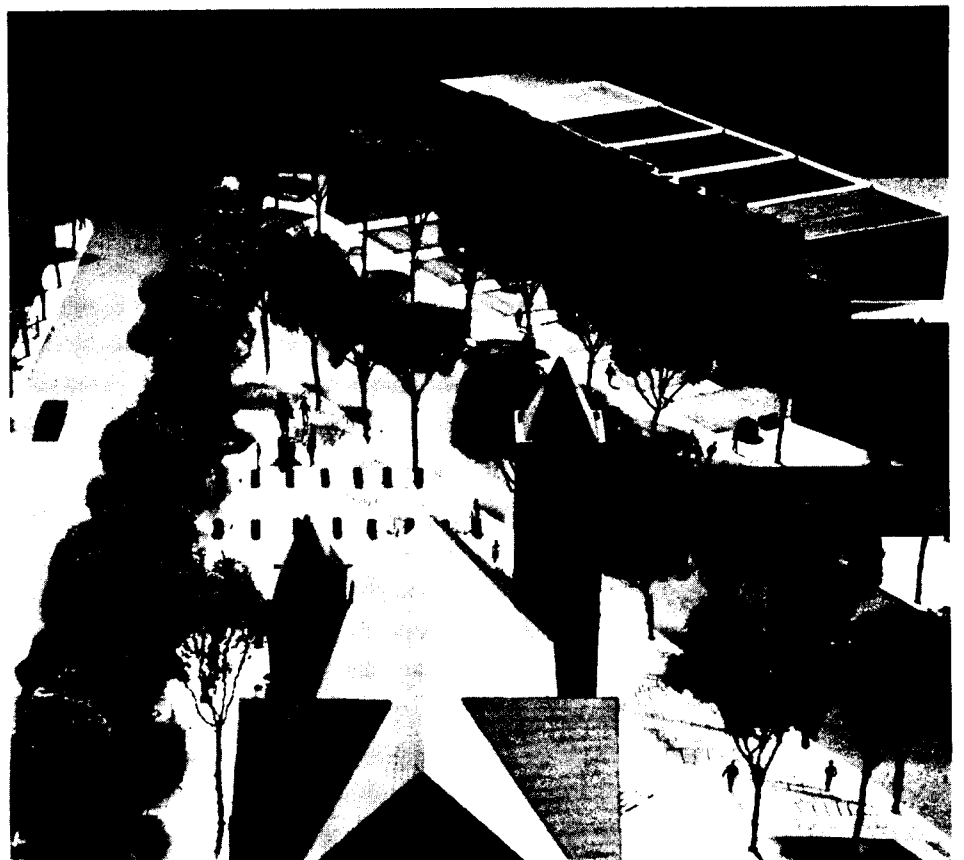
swimming facilities--what is required is to coordinate the pools with the Market complex with the existing Hine Junior High and its playfields, closing off some of the intervening streets, and converting the whole center into a complete community facility.

In every instance, these facilities should be located as much "in" neighborhoods as possible, and close to public transportation, so that they are readily accessible to all people of all ages.

WAREHOUSE REHABILITATION

One question facing America's older cities is how to redeem blighted industrial areas, and turn them to new and useful lives. Renewal is one way and another is to renovate old buildings for a completely new and contemporary purpose, such as was done at Ghirardelli Square in San Francisco.

In the Capitol East area the car barn on East Capitol Street is one place where this might be done. It is a huge handsome structure, with enough room inside for dancing, indoor swimming, skating, neighborhood theater, craft rooms, TV rooms for the very old, pre-school centers for the the very young and a variety



EASTERN MARKET COMPLEX. Top: Front view of Eastern Market. Center: Rear view of the market showing extensive open space that could be used for recreation and an indoor-outdoor pool. Bottom: Vacant lot adjacent to fire house and the market--usable as part of the recreational complex.

of appropriate facilities for all the young adults in between. The car barn is set back nicely from the street so that it could even include a sidewalk cafe, coffee house, store front museum, outdoor art gallery--or all of them.

CITY PARK

There has been discussion in Washington for some time about development of a dynamic city park. A resolution has been introduced in Congress on the subject which recommended use of the Kenilworth Dump site, when its present use is phased out.

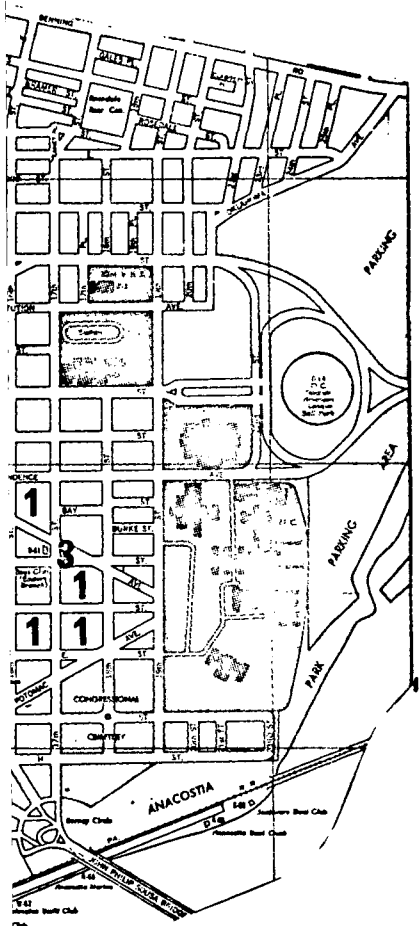
We looked over this site with some care, however, we felt that automobile access was awkward, and mass transit nearly non-existent, thus, it would not really serve as a facility for the city as a whole.

Nearby is another area; the spit of fill land in the middle of the Anacostia River extending south from the Benning Street Bridge. It is favored by being very close to the parking facilities and mass transit stop at DC Stadium, and its setting in the middle of the reflecting river could be incomparably lovely. There is a view down onto the site from both the Capitol Hill side and the Anacostia Heights, and day or night it could be a park of great attractiveness.

While the Potomac is a grand and formal border to the city on the West, the Anacostia is an inner-city river, and its use should be directed to a range of inner-city activities.

A city park should include both cultural and amusement facilities. It should have restaurants of all kinds, from hot dogs to the most elegant in the city; several dance pavilions, swimming lakes that can be used for skating in winter, places for outdoor concerts and even a small theater, market stalls, hobby shops, carousels fun rides, open air art.

As part of the city park concept, the Langston Golf Course should be redesigned to make it the exciting challenge it should be--and a sports and recreation center



EAST CAPITOL NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS

LEGEND

1. INTERIOR BLOCKS
2. VEST POCKET PARK
3. TOT LOT - PLAYGROUND
4. PLAZA
5. SCHOOL - PARK
6. COMMERCIAL CORNER
7. COMMERCIAL STRIP
8. EAST CAPITOL ST.
9. EASTERN MKT.
10. CAR BARN

should be set aside for allotment gardens (as has proved so successful in Europe) so that in-city residents can have a plot of ground to garden on fine summer evenings and weekends and amplify their income by growing their own fruits and vegetables. The Acquatic Gardens and Arboretum are superb naturalistic areas, and should remain so, but the Anacostia parklands are so extensive that a full range of activities can be comfortably designed there to serve the entire city.

The implication of coordinating planning becomes abundantly clear here where the proposed East Leg of the freeway and the city park complex meet. The two must be designed together so that their design meshes and the two enhance rather than destroy each other.

WATERFRONT FREEWAYS

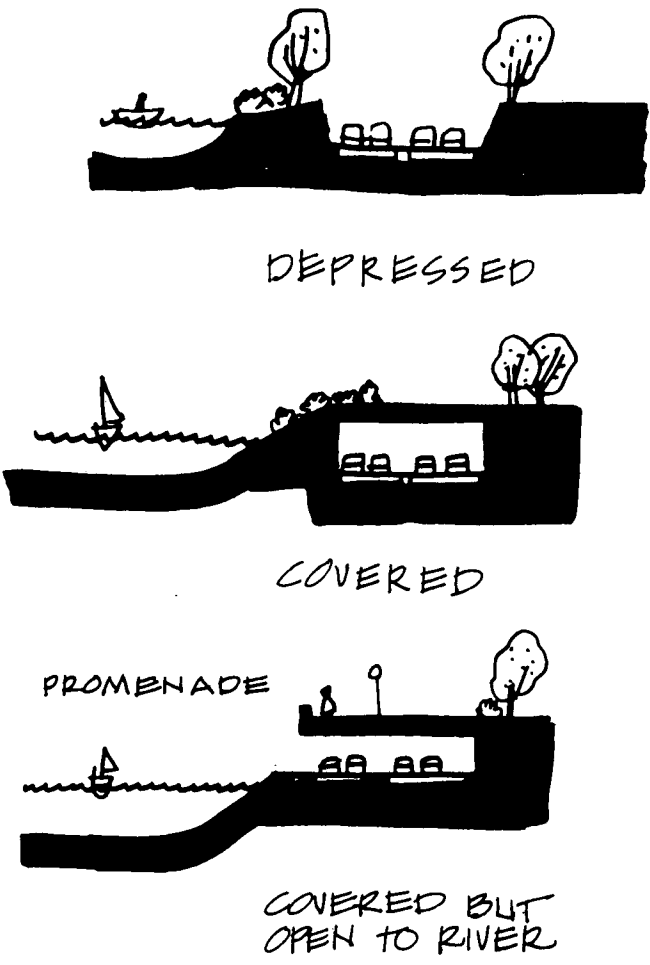
There is not a major city in America that has not suffered from the destructive effects of freeway placement. Mrs. Johnson receives thousands of letters from concerned citizens, pleading for her assistance in these matters. We do too, and even wrote a book recently in an effort to cast some light on how freeways might be designed to do their job more constructively.

The best way to help the Nation out of its freeway dilemma is, perhaps, to set a better example of how it can be done. The public is demanding improved performance, and we all have developed the experience to do much better than has been done in the past. The apparent key to the whole problem of the well-designed freeway is to conceive of it as part of its total environment--not separate from it. Freeways, we have found, can add to the urban scene if they are designed to enhance urban life and not just move traffic.

Along the Anacostia River a new freeway is being planned; the East Leg of the Inner Loop. It skirts between the DC Stadium and the river shore, before curving inland beneath the Arboretum hill. The East Leg, as planned, will take over 70 acres of parkland and fill a portion of the river. Equivalent acreage, obviously, cannot be provided in the same area; however, equivalent value could be determined, and compensation established in terms of the shape of the fill in the river, methods of maintaining the island, the freeway cross-section, pedestrian overpasses, parking garages at DC Stadium, and other enhancing benefits to the immediate area. During the recent Williamsburg Conference on Highways and Urban Development the issues of non-quantifiable values being as important as the usual cost-benefit ratios was discussed at length. The Anacostia freeway would provide a fine example of the importance of "trade-offs" in freeway design.

This is a complex problem, requiring a thoughtful and inter-related solution

and, above all, it should be made in light of the requirements of overall use of the Anacostia area which is an open space resource the city of Washington can ill afford to have destroyed.



FREEWAY DESIGN. Sketches illustrate three different ways of designing the East Leg of the freeway so that it does not detract from the proposed Anacostia City Park.

Halprin Proposals Detailed by Site

PROJECT	LOCATION	OWNERSHIP	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY	APPLICABLE FUNDS
INTERIOR BLOCKS	C,D, 12th, 13th NE C,D, 15th, 16th NE 16th, 17th, Independence & Mass. Aves. C, 14th, 15th, S. Carolina D,E, 16th, 17th SE D,E, 17th, 18th SE E, F, 3rd, 4th NE	Private yards and public alley rights-of-way	D. C. Dept. of Highways	HUD matching grant with DC beautification and/or private donation
VEST POCKET PARK	E, 2nd, 3rd NE C, 2nd, 3rd, Maryland Ave. Mass. Ave., C, 17th SE	Private	To be acquired	"
SCHOOL-PLAYGROUND	Hine Jr. High School	Public	Depts. of Education, Recreation & Highways.	"
COMMERCIAL CORNERS	4th, 5th, E. Capitol St. 8th, E. Capitol St. 8th, Constitution & Mass. Ave. C, 8th NE F, 12th NE	Public and private rights-of-way.	Dept. of Highways	HUD matching grant with DC beautification and/or private donation & property owners.
COMMERCIAL STRIP	7th, 12th, H NE D,G, 8th SE	15' public right-of-way 30' public right-of-way	Dept. of Highways	"
EAST CAPITOL ST.	3rd, 11th, East Capitol St.	21'-34' public right-of-way	Dept. of Highways	"
EASTERN MARKET COMPLEX	N, C, Ave. --Penna. Ave. & 8th St.	Public ownership	D. C. Gov't. Recreation Dept., Dept. of Highways	"
CAR BARN	A, 14th, 15th & E. Capitol Sts.	D. C. Transit		Potential aquisition by Recreation Dept.
CITY PARK	Anacostia River & E. Capitol St. Bridge	Public	National Park Service Planning Commission	Potential aquisition by Rec. Dept., NPS & concessionaire
ANACOSTIA FREEWAY		Public	Planning Commission National Park Servc, Highway Dept.	Compensation terms to be negotiated between NPS and Highway Dept.

New Junior High Sites Eyed in SE

The District school board is eyeing two Near SE blocks as possible alternatives in case Hine Junior High School can not be expanded at its present location between 7th and 8th south of Independence Ave. Congress last year, after considerable pressure from residents of the area involved, rejected a plan to expand Hine by condemning Square 900, directly north of the present school. The school is now badly overcrowded.

The new possibilities--which would require construction of a whole new school--are Squares 764(2nd, 3rd, D, E SE) and 765 (2nd, 3rd, E, South Carolina SE). Square 764 is owned by Nick Antonelli, local parking lot czar, and is presently vacant. It was formerly the site of the Providence Hospital.

Square 765 has 35 dwellings on it, ranging in price up to \$60,000. The school board has also considered the north side of Pennsylvania Ave. SE in the 1200 and 1300 blocks, but is believed to have eliminated these sites.

The Capitol Hill restoration bloc favors construction of a new school in the eastern part of the community, out towards Barney Circle. This, it is maintained would be closer to the heart of the school population.

Critics of this idea, however, charge that it is racially motivated and point out that a school to the east would be inevitably segregated. They want new construction to take place in or near the restoration area to encourage school integration.

It seems likely that the Square 764 site would raise the least furor of any of the possibilities now under consideration. No housing would have to be condemned for its use.

Acreages of the sites are: Square 900, 1.23 acres; Square 764, 2.87 acres; and Square 765, 3.37 acres.

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East of the Dome

The Southeast Branch of the D. C. Public Library, at 7th & D SE, has announced an extension of hours for its Children's Room. The room will now be open on Thursday evenings until 9 pm.

A weekly story hour for pre-schoolers will be held at the library every Wednesday at 1030 am.

The regular hours of the SE Branch are now 9 am to 9 pm Monday through Friday and 9 am to 5 pm on Saturday. The Children's Room hours are the same except for closing at 530 pm on Fridays.

Cutbacks in funds for the National Teachers Corps has forced suspension of the Keller Memorial Lutheran Church's tutorial program. The church, at 9th & Md. NE, had been conducting the program several times a week with the aid of teacher corpsmen. But the teachers were recently pulled out of the program and the church is now seeking qualified tutors so it can start the program again.

There will be a meeting on "The Role of the Church on Capitol Hill" on Feb. 3 at St. Peter's School, 3rd and E SE, at 830 pm. The session is open to the public and will feature talks by representatives of those churches with missions in the area. Included will be spokesmen from the Episcopal, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, and Presbyterian churches as well as one from Christ Child House.

The Navy has announced plans to refurbish the Navy Yard on the Anacostia River south of M St. According to the plan, for which no money has yet been provided, the ugly old industrial buildings in the yard will be torn down and replaced by new structures. There will also be new piers and an enlarged ellipse area. The several historic buildings in the yard, however, will be preserved. Included among these are the original commandant's home and the old commandant's office. The yard, according to the plan, would also retain the Navy Museum.

The General Services Administration, which controls about half of the yard, has not yet decided what the future holds for its portion.

Jane Hardin, at Community Laundries, 1125 Penna. SE, says that she's got a new water heater that will provide an increased supply of hot water to the washing machines.

The Gazette's associate editor, Erbin Crowell, and his wife Sally (who is also in charge of correspondence, circulation around here) have just produced a fine young son. No name at deadline time.

The SE Neighborhood Advisory Group has elected Tom Torosian as its new chairman. Also chosen at a recent meeting were: Willie Palmore as vice-chairman; Mrs. Gloria Thomas as recording secretary; and Mrs. Mildred Buck as corresponding secretary.

This pool for 7th and N. C. Ave. SE is a fine idea, but why call it a natatorium? Our dictionary defines a natatorium as a "swimming pool" and that's all.

If the Recreation Dept. wants to ask Congress for a natatorium, we guess that's all right; but frankly, we'd settle for a plain old swimming pool.

Over 1000 false alarms were pulled in Capitol East last year, according to the D. C. Fire Department.

Among the new construction in Capitol East:

--The Little Sisters of the Poor, 220 H NE, are putting on a \$225,000 addition to their convent.

--A new one-story professional office building is going to be constructed at 702 15th NE at a cost of \$120,000.

--An 80-seat cocktail lounge is scheduled to open soon at the corner of 1st and D SE.

John Anthony was installed last month as the new president of the Public Interest Civic Association in a ceremony at Calvary Episcopal Church, 6th and I NE. Among those attending were Engineer Commissioner Robert Mathe and public service commissioner William Pooter. Ruth Bates Harris, director of the D. C. Human Relations Council.

On Sunday February 5, at the 11 am worship service of the Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church, 4th and Independence, SE, there will be an observation of International Brotherhood Sunday. All are welcome but those from other nations are particularly invited to share in the service. Basil P. Das, from Pakistan, along with other foreign students, will conduct the service. There will be a social hour following the service.

THE GAZETTE GUIDE: NUMBER 3

(The December issue of The Gazette contained a comprehensive guide to community services in the area. This month we publish another in a series of changes to keep the guide up to date. Just clip the information below and attach to your copy of the guide, or write in the corrections. If you wish a copy of the guide you may obtain one by sending 10¢ in coin or stamp to The Gazette, 413 6th St. NE.

Corrections

LIBRARIES

NE Branch: 7th & Md. NE. 547-4778
1 pm-9pm M-Th; 1 pm-6pm F; 9am-1pm Sa.

SE Branch: 9am-9pm M-F; 9 am-5pm Sa. Children's Room hours are the same except for closing at 530pm on Friday. Story hour for pre-schoolers on W at 1030am. 7th & D SE. 544-4723.

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Restoration Group Rebuffed on Pool

The city's Superintendent of Recreation has told the Capitol Hill Restoration Society that its opposition to construction of an outdoor-indoor swimming pool at 7th and N. C. Ave. SE does not represent the majority view of the area.

Planning money for the pool has high priority in this year's D. C. budget. Construction of the pool is backed by several local groups.

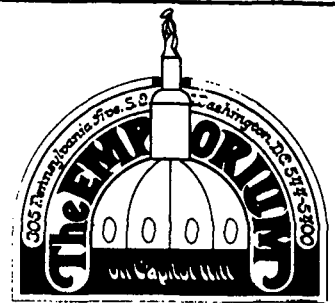
The Restoration Society voted unanimously last fall against the pool proposal and followed up its action with a letter to the D. C. Commissioners. The letter urged that the planning money be dropped from the budget and said that "it would be far more beneficial to concentrate investments in a large property such as the D. C. car barn site at 14th & E, Capitol Streets, NE."

Replying to the letter, recreation head Joseph H. Cole said:

"The views of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society are not consistent with the views of the majority of other groups with which we have been in contact. Though it seems that usually the majority rules, we will be sure that your views are most carefully considered by the staff and the Recreation Board if and when funds for the development of this property are secured."

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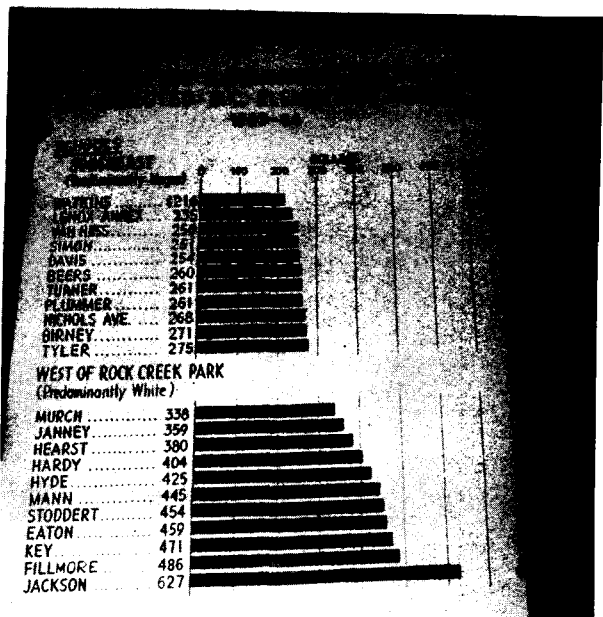
WE ARE interested in everything that is going on in the Capitol East area. If your block club is having a party, if your church is planning a special program, if you or neighborhood have grievances against the District government, if it's news, let us know. Just follow these steps:

1. Write out the news items, make sure the following points are covered:
 - a. What is happening or is going to happen?
 - b. Who is involved? (Print names clearly).
 - c. Why is it taking place?
 - d. When is it taking place?
 - e. Where is it taking place?
 - f. Whom can we contact for additional information? (Name and phone number).
2. Mail to the Gazette, 413 6th St. NE, Washington, D.C. Or--if it's short--phone us at 546-9662.

3. Our deadline is the 23rd of the month prior to the month of issue.

4. We can use photos providing they are clear and are sent with a complete description of the subject matter including identification of persons in the picture. Photos can not be returned.

Hobson Hits Hanson



Julius Hobson, local civil rights leader, (right) sharply attacked D. C. School Superintendent Carl Hansen at a January meeting of the School Action Council of Capitol East. The meeting was called to hear Hobson discuss his suit against the District school system in which he alleges that the school board is unconstitutionally appointed and that the schools discriminate against Negroes and the poor. In his free-wheeling talk, Hobson accused Hansen of assigning poor children to the "economic junk-heap" via the track system. He used charts, like the one at left, to argue his points. The chart, based on school system records, shows the difference in per capita expenditures for elementary school children in Southeast (predominantly Negro) and west of Rock Creek Park (predominantly white). Hobson's suit, now before local courts, is being joined by SACCE as a friend of the court.

Hobson told the SACCE meeting that he wanted



to send his children to school west of Rock Creek Park "because that's where all the books are." He criticized community groups for failing to come to the aid of his law case.

He particularly took Negro churches to task. "There's not a black church in the community that raised any money for this suit."

The suit has cost \$12,000 so far.

CAPITOL EAST CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

3rd--Meeting on "Role of the Church on Capitol Hill" at St. Peter's School, 3rd and E SE, at 830 pm.

7th--Meeting on the Halperin Plan for Capitol East. Meeting is called to hear citizen views on proposals for area improvement. Sponsored by Emergency Recreation Council. Representative from White House will speak. 8 pm at Hine Junior High School, 8th and Pema. SE.

If your organization is holding a meeting or event open to the public, we will be glad to list it in the Capitol East Calendar. Deadline: 23rd of the month.

DDT Criticized, but not Congress

The Capitol Hill Community Council criticized DDT, but not Congress, at its January membership meeting at St. Cecilia's School, 6th and E. Capitol Sts. The Council approved a motion recommending discontinuance "of use of the present DDT solution used to spray trees on the streets of the District of Columbia."

Advocates of the motion quoted authorities ranging from the Department of Agriculture to Rachel Carson to back up their position. Critics of the motion demanded to know what alternative those against DDT proposed for city use. One anti-DDT man, noting that there was a substantial amount of research that indicates the serious danger of DDT to health, said that "insects will do less damage than DDT will."

He was backed up by a lady dressed in blue who told the Council:

"I wonder how many people around here have seen any robins lately. They eat the worms that eat the DDT and they all die. It is a wicked thing that is being done in this city of Washington."

Congressional morality, however, proved to be a more difficult problem for the Council to come to an official position about. The question before the body was a resolution recommending that "a letter be sent to Speaker of the House of Representatives, John McCormack, to the effect that the Council is aware of the action taken against Representative Adam Clayton Powell, who is a member of the Capitol Hill Community Council, and we must insist that other Congressmen who have allegedly abused their Congressional privileges and responsibilities be similarly investigated."

is eliminating the question."

After many more minutes of argument a final vote was taken and the motion defeated 15-13.

GET THE GUIDE

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